

## Message Text

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11  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MZERDEN:SES  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER  
NEA/ARN:WHOWELL

----- 044990

R 070642Z AUG 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PSDC, LE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

1. THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING CONDOLENCE MESSAGE  
FROM ABBEY CHARBEL KASSIS KASLIK ON THE DEATHS OF AMBAS-  
SADOR MELOY AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN BEIRUT.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

HONORABLE GERALD FORD,PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE PERMANENT CONGRESS OF THE LEBANESE RELIGIOUS ORDER  
EXPRESSES IT'S PROFOUND REGRET, INDIGNATION, AND THE  
ENUNCIATION OF THE INHUMAN MURDERS OF YOUR AMBASSADOR AND  
HIS COMPANIONS IN BEIRUT. THE BARBAROUS ACT RINGS OUT THE  
TRAGIC PROBLEM OF LEBANON WHERE ALL MEANS OF MAINTAINING  
LAW AND ORDER HAS VIRTUALLY DISAPPEARED WITH THE RESULTS  
THAT THE LEBANESE POPULATION LIVES IN A STATE OF TERROR  
AND UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THEIR FUTURE. WE TRUST THAT THE  
CONCERN OF THE UNITED STATES WILL SPEEDILY TRANSLATE IT-  
SELF INTO THE APPROPRIATE MEASURE WHICH WILL HELP IN  
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RESTORING PEACE AND ORDER IN THIS COUNTRY AND REASSURING

OUR TORTURED PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR LIVES AND FUTURE.

FOR THE PERMANENT CONGRESS, ABBEY CHARBEL KASSIS KASLIK  
JOUNIEH, LEBANON. END TEXT.

3. EMBASSY PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

I HAVE BEEN ASKED BY THE PRESIDENT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
TELEGRAM OF SYMPATHY CONCERNING THE DEATHS OF AMBASSADOR  
MELOY, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WARING, AND ZOHAIR MOGHRABI.

DESPITE THIS DEPLORABLE ACT, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS COM-  
MITTED TO FINDING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN  
LEBANON WHICH WILL PROVIDE SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY TO ALL  
GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES IN THE COUNTRY. HABIB

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONDOLENCE MESSAGES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE196759  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MZERDEN:SES  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760305-0186  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760875/aaaacnfb.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO CONDOLENCE MESSAGE  
**TAGS:** PSDC, LE  
**To:** BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006